

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MENTALLY ILL RESIDENTS IN ADULT CARE HOMES**

Tuesday, December 12, 2006

1:00 PM

Room 643, LOB

The Subcommittee on Mentally Ill Residents in Adult Care Homes met on Tuesday, December 12, 2006, at 1:00 PM in Room 643 of the Legislative Office Building. Members present were: Representative Verla Insko, Co-Chair; Senators Stan Bingham, Charlie Dannelly, and Jeanne Lucas, and Representatives Alice Bordsen, Bob England, and Carolyn Justice.

Shawn Parker, Ben Popkin, Andrea Russo, and Rennie Hobby provided staff support to the meeting. Attached is the Visitor Registration Sheet that is made a part of the minutes. (See Attachment No. 1)

Representative Verla Insko, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order, welcoming members and guests. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 14th meeting. Representative Justice made the motion and the minutes were approved. Representative Insko said that the purpose of the meeting was to review and approve proposals to be recommended in January to the Commission on Aging and to the Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services.

Ben Popkin from the Research Division reviewed each of the five recommendations. The recommendations are listed below with changes recommended by subcommittee members listed beneath each proposal.

1. Enact legislation to increase the stock of current housing options available to North Carolinians with mental illness (including independent living units, supported housing units and group homes) and support the development of new options for housing for North Carolinians with mental illness that are appropriate for and meet their needs.
1. (*Revised*) Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services and the Housing Finance Agency to increase the stock of current housing options available to North Carolinians with mental illness (including independent living units, supported housing units and group homes).
2. (*New*) Support Department of Health and Human Services and Housing Finance Agency efforts to develop new options for housing for North Carolinians with mental illness that are appropriate for and meet their needs.
3. Support the development of a "Transitional Residential Treatment Program" to provide 24-hour residential treatment and rehabilitation for adults who have a pattern of difficult behaviors, related to mental illness, which exceed the capabilities of traditional community residential settings.
3. (*No Revisions*)

4. Authorize the Commission on Aging and the Legislative Oversight Committee on MH/DD/SAS to explore whether there is a need for the General Assembly to enact statutes to govern facilities providing housing in one location to both adults with mental illness and adults without mental illness.
4. (*Revised*) Authorize the Commission on Aging and the Legislative Oversight Committee on MH/DD/SAS to explore the need for the General Assembly to enact statutes authorizing rules to regulate facilities that provide housing for adults with mental illness in the same location with adults without mental illness. Rules authorized shall address at least the following issues: housing of individuals with mental illness in the same bedroom or area of a facility with individuals without mental illness; and training of staff to provide care appropriate to each individual resident's needs with specific training addressing the needs of persons with mental illness.
5. Support ongoing efforts to develop of a Uniform Screening Tool which would include the requirement to notify Local Management Entities (LMEs) of the mental illness status of any individual admitted to any facility within the LME's catchment area.
5. (*Revised*) Support ongoing efforts to develop a Uniform Screening Tool that would include the requirement that the Department of Health and Human Services notify Local Management Entities (LMEs) of the mental illness status of any individual admitted to an adult care home facility within the LME's catchment area. The Department of Health and Human Services shall specify which Division will be responsible for providing the notification and what resources will be required to accomplish the notification.
6. Authorize funds to provide a total of 2,000 slots for use by adults through the State/County Special Assistance In-Home Program for Adults.
6. (*No Revisions*)

Representative Insko asked for a motion to approve the recommendations to the Commission on Aging and the Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, pending final review and approval of the revised recommendations by the Subcommittee Co-Chairs. Senator Dannelly made the motion and the committee approved the recommendations.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 P.M.

Representative Verla Insko, Co-Chair

Representative Beverly Earle, Co-Chair

Rennie Hobby, Committee Assistant